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Thwaites, Reuben Gold, Ed. *Early Western Journals, 1748-1765.* Price, \$4.00. Cleveland: The Arthur H. Clark Company, 1905.

This important volume on early Pennsylvania history has recently been issued. The volume presents the best and rarest contemporary accounts of the most interesting period of early Pennsylvania history, giving the journals of Conrad Weiser and George Croghan, Indian agents from 1748-1765, and of Post, the Moravian missionary. These journals form the very best contemporary material for the history of the last French War and Pontiac's conspiracy.

Tyler, Lyon G. *England in America, 1580-1652.* (The American Nation Series, edited by A. B. Hart. Vol. IV. Pp. xx, 355. New York: Harper & Bros., 1904.

See "Book Reviews."

Whelpley, J. D. *The Problem of the Immigrant.* Pp. viii, 294. Price, \$3.00. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1905.

In this study the author presents, after a brief discussion of the general question, "a summary of conditions, laws and regulations concerning the movement of population to and from the British Empire, United States, France, Belgium, Switzerland, Germany, Italy, Austria-Hungary, Spain, Portugal, Netherlands, Denmark, Scandinavia and Prussia." Such data is not easily accessible to the average student or legislator and the volume will be of great service. The information was collected on the ground. The author does not pretend to discuss the many vexing problems. It is to be hoped that he will do this in a later monograph.

Williams, Ralph D. *The Honorable Peter White: A Biographical Sketch of the Lake Superior Iron Country.* Pp. xvi, 205. Cleveland: Penton Publishing Company, 1905.

Willis, Henry P. *Our Philippine Problem.* Pp. xiii, 479. Price, \$1.50. New York: Henry Holt & Co., 1905.

See "Book Reviews."

REVIEWS.

Hart, Albert Bushnell (Ed.). *The American Nation.* Five Volumes. First Series. Price, \$9.00. New York: Harper & Bros., 1904-05.

Vol. I. *European Background of American History.* E. P. Cheyney. Pp. xxv, 343.

Vol. II. *Basis of American History.* Livingston Farrand. Pp. xviii, 303.

Vol. III. *Spain in America.* Edward Gaylord Bourne. Pp. xx, 350.

Vol. IV. *England in America.* Lyon Gardiner Tyler. Pp. xvii, 355.

Vol. V. *Colonial Self-Government.* Charles McLean Andrews. Pp. xviii, 369.

Among the numerous recent histories of the United States this one, to be completed in twenty-eight volumes, bids fair to surpass not only its immediate associates, but to be considered as the best of all. Every method has its defects. In the present case it is obviously impossible to expect with twenty-six authors the unity of style with its accompanying charms to be found in

Prescott or McMaster. The effort of the editor to keep the volumes uniform in size must also have some bad effects. On the other hand, the reader has the great advantage of getting the ripe judgment of a specialist in each field. Suffice it in general to say that the volumes are clearly written, with rare good taste as to perspective and proportion. They are untechnical, but are provided with ample foot-notes and critical bibliographies. The reader may be sure that all crass errors are eliminated. The attempt is constantly made to portray the life of the people and to explain events in the light of economic opportunity and social conditions so that the political side is not over-emphasized. Judging by the first series, the history will be, when complete, a monumental work fitted to stand comparison with similar productions of the English and German students.

The series begins fittingly with the volume on "The European Background of American History," by Professor E. P. Cheyney, of the University of Pennsylvania. The significance of the disturbance of ancient trade routes by the Turkish invasion is set forth, as is also the story of the great commercial companies. The European governments of the sixteenth century are described and the effect of the Reformation traced. Thus the reader comes to understand the conditions which led to the discovery of America and the migration of the early settlers.

Volume II, "Basis of American History," by Professor Livingston Farrand, is a most important contribution to our literature. It fills a place hitherto almost vacant. For the general reader it furnishes the best account of the life and civilization of the Indians, telling in addition something of the physiography, the flora and fauna of the country. It seems a bit inharmonious to find statistics of recent mineral production and yield of corn, but these were evidently considered necessary in view of the history as a whole. One only wishes that Professor Farrand could have told a little more about the Indians and the degree to which they utilized natural opportunities.

In the third volume, "Spain in America," Professor Edward Gaylord Bourne, of Yale, tells of the great discoverers, Magellan being given highest rank; of the beginnings of the Spanish colonial policy and the race conditions in Spanish-America down to 1821. Professor Bourne gives Spain greater credit than the layman usually thinks her due and shows the existence of a culture in the colonies little mentioned by most writers. Yet, in the foolish restrictions put upon trade and in the lack of initiative and self-government lay the seeds of final decay. Even to-day Latin civilization has a firm hold upon American soil and the author has done well to emphasize the many good things in earlier Spanish customs.

President Tyler, of Williams and Mary College, traces the English settlements, in Volume IV, "England in America." The contrasts between North and South in soil and climate with their results upon social and commercial life are indicated, together with the final conquest of the wilderness and the victory over other nations, tracing the history down to 1652.

The last volume of the "first series" is from the pen of Professor Charles M. Andrews, of Bryn Mawr College, and is entitled "Colonial Self-Govern-

ment." The new colonial system after 1652 is the author's starting point, and the editor claims that some of the vexed problems regarding the charters of Connecticut and Rhode Island have been settled by Professor Andrews' researches. Much new material is presented relative to the other colonies and the beginnings of Pennsylvania. The volume closes with a description of the social and economic conditions about 1689.

CARL KELSEY.

University of Pennsylvania.

Ireland, Alleyne. *The Far Eastern Tropics.* Pp. vii, 339. Price, \$2.00. Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin & Co., 1905.

Mr. Ireland's book presents a number of strong points; it is based on first-hand knowledge, gathered during a two years' stay in the Far East, it is for the most part clearly written in an interesting style, it gives just the facts which an American might wish to know, and its conclusions are given with an impartiality, honesty and forcefulness which must carry the greatest weight in the minds of the unprejudiced. The work consists of a number of descriptive and critical essays, published at irregular intervals, but all of uniform plan, dealing with the most important British, Dutch, French and American dependencies in the Far East. They have been brought up to date and carefully fitted together so that they constitute a harmonious whole, far superior in value to the author's previous work.

Starting out from the influence of environment upon civilization, the author agrees with Mr. Kidd that the tropical countries are devoid of all ability to produce and maintain an advanced civilization. India, Egypt, Peru and Mexico were at one time highly civilized, owing to the remarkable fertility of their environment, but since this civilization was based purely upon the exceptional fertility of nature rather than the ability of man, it could not endure. The vigor of mind and body which can only come from conflict with nature gives rise to the highest and most permanent forms of progress, which are now realized in what we term western civilization. The peoples of the heated area having come under the tutelage of the northern nations the question arises—how can efficient government and a reasonably advanced state of development be maintained? Shall our chief aim be to develop the native population for complete self-government? The author answers, "if native ideals are to prevail, the substantial control of affairs must remain in the hands of natives, . . . if the administration is to be conducted on western lines the control must rest with white men." The chapters on Hong Kong, British North Borneo, Sarawak, Burma, the Malaccan colonies, Java and French Indo-China all show how Great Britain, Holland and France have maintained a strong control over those dependencies in which the natives outnumber the white population. This control may often be disguised with the object of sparing aboriginal susceptibilities; it may be moderated so as to enlist large numbers of natives in the civil service, but always there exists the undoubted legislative, administrative and judicial control which initiates measures, carries them through the legislative body, executes and interprets them. The Far